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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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CD NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 11 September 1952

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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- 25X1X 1. Pharmaceuticals which were unobtainable in Czechoslovakia  included diethyl barbituric acid, aspirin, codeine, atropine, and digitals. No syrups were available for use as drug sweeteners. Morphine was in good supply because it was under strong control by the government. Ergot products were formerly imported, but the source was cut off, and farmers in Czechoslovakia were being encouraged to cultivate the plant source as a new crop.
2. Injections of Czech penicillin were extremely painful. Novocain was used along with the penicillin, and, in my opinion, this was only to relieve the pain of the injection. It is my opinion, although as far as I know it is not shared by anyone else, that the average Czech worker at the penicillin plant is making no effort to improve the quality of the product. I think they would prefer to have Czech factories produce inferior penicillin rather than have the Communist regime score a success by manufacturing a highly purified product.

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